

Historical Floods: Potomac River at Hancock

Latitude: 39.698

Flood Stage: 30 ft

Period of Record: 1889-Present

Last Flood: 9/8/1996

Longitude: -78.178

Number of Floods: 13

Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code
6/1/1889	40.00	220,000	Major	*** (B)
3/30/1924	32.40	130,000	Minor	*** (B)
5/13/1924	35.00	160,000	Major	***
4/17/1929	30.30	110,000	Minor	*** (B)
3/18/1936	47.60	340,000	Major	***
4/27/1937	35.70	153,000	Major	none
10/29/1937	31.80	122,000	Minor	none
10/16/1942	36.63	155,000	Major	none
8/19/1955	32.40	123,000	Minor	none
6/23/1972	30.79	112,000	Minor	none
11/6/1985	41.20	207,000	Major	none
1/20/1996	36.26	152,000	Major	none
9/8/1996	35.81	148,000	Major	none

Drainage Area: 4064 sq mi

Gage Datum: 383.68 ft MSL

Potomac Basin
Washington County

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-9999 signifies missing data

MARFC Codes

Code	Description
(!!!)	Datum changed during this year.
(1)	Backwater Effect.
(2)	15.77 ft also occurred on 11/25/1950 but only counted as one flood.
(3)	Estimated from current USGS rating table.
(4)	Estimated height from the USGS.
(5)	Gage height at a different site and/or datum
(6)	Discharge affected by Regulation or Diversion
(7)	Due to changes, prior floods were based on present flood stage. Therefore, flood data could possibly be incomplete.
(8)	Gage is a staff gage and not the official USGS gage. Therefore, some floods may be missing from our study.
(9)	Discharge effected by snow-melt, ice jam or debris jam break up
(A)	Discharge affected to unknown degree by regulation or diversion.
(B)	Month or day of occurrence is unknown or not exact.
(C)	All or part of the record affected by urbanization, mining, agricultural changes, channelization, or other factors.
(D)	Crest height adjusted to current datum.
(E)	Estimated discharge.
(F)	Only annual maximum peak available for this year.
(O)	This flood occurred at a previous flood stage that is lower than the current flood stage. This is only a historical flood.
**	Crest information looks reasonable despite potential problems. This data was used in our study.
***	Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and was not used in our flood frequency study.
****	Gauge was discontinued in 2004. 2004 and later was not used in our study.
none	No code

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